

HIV/AIDS Among Female Adolescents, Ages 13-19

United States 2007

- ⚡ HIV/AIDS continues to have a significant impact on teenagers in the United States. Young female adolescents have been particularly hard hit.
- ⚡ In 2007, females accounted for **31%** of adolescents aged 13 to 19 years who were diagnosed with HIV infection, compared with 23% of young adults aged 20 to 24 years and 26% of adults aged 25 years and older.
- ⚡ In 2007, 541 adolescents were reported with AIDS; of these, 324 (60%) were male and 217 (**40%**) were female. In earlier years, most reported cases were in adolescent males; over time, the male-to-female ratio has decreased.
- ⚡ The majority of young women are most likely to be infected via high-risk heterosexual contact, followed by other risks, which includes perinatal exposure and injection drug use.

Florida 2009

- ⚡ In Florida 15% of new infections of HIV are among persons under the age of 25.
- ⚡ 2007-2009, 736 HIV cases were reported for ages 13-19, of which 37% of were female.
- ⚡ A total of 538 female adolescents, ages 13-19 were living with HIV/AIDS through 2009, as of 12/31/09, of which 76% were black, 11% were white, 12% were Hispanic and 1% were other races.
- ⚡ The majority of female adolescents are most likely to be infected perinatally, followed by high-risk heterosexual contact.

MODE OF EXPOSURE*	Young Women Living with HIV/AIDS thru 2009	
Injection Drug Use	5	1%
Heterosexual Contact	106	20%
Perinatal	417	78%
Other Risk*	10	2%
TOTAL	538	100%

*Confirmed other includes Hemophilia, Transfusion, and other confirmed risks.

Estimated Numbers of AIDS Cases among Female Adolescents and Young Adults, by Transmission Category 2003–2007—United States and Dependent Areas

Transmission category	13–19 years		20–24 years	
	N	%	N	%
Injection drug use	84	9	359	15
High-risk heterosexual contact*	527	54	2,033	82
Other/not identified†	364	37	76	3
Total	975		2,468	



Note: Data have been adjusted for reporting delays and missing risk-factor information.
 *Heterosexual contact with a person known to have, or to be at high risk for, HIV infection.
 †Includes hemophilia, blood transfusion, perinatal exposure, an risk factor not reported or not identified.

CDC

- ⚡ Of the female adolescents living with HIV/AIDS in Florida, 27% were from Miami-Dade County, 16% from Broward County and 10% from Palm Beach County.
- ⚡ Of the sexually transmitted diseases reported among females in Florida, in 2008, 38% of Chlamydia, 38% of Gonorrhea & 18% of Primary and Secondary Syphilis cases were ages 13-19.

- ⚡ **Most people diagnosed with AIDS before the age of 30 were infected with HIV in their teens or early twenties. This illustrates the importance of advocating prevention to young people so that they have the information and resources they need to protect themselves and each other from HIV when they make decisions about experimentation with drugs and sex.**
- ⚡ **Adolescents need accurate, age-appropriate information about HIV infection and AIDS. Topics should include, but not be limited: how to talk with their parents or other trusted adults about HIV and AIDS, how to reduce or eliminate risk factors, how to talk with a potential partner about risk factors, how to use a condom correctly and where to get tested for HIV. Information should also include the concept that abstinence is the *primary* effective way to avoid infection.**
- ⚡ **According to CDC's Youth Risk Behavioral Survey (YRBS), greater than 40% of female high school students reported ever having had sexual intercourse. This risk was higher among minority females.**

Source: MMWR, Surveillance Summaries, YRBS-United States, 2007, Vol. 57 No. SS-4

The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, Sexual Health Statistics for Teenagers and Young Adults in the United States. September 2006
 CDC. HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, 2007 (Vol. 19)
 CDC HIV/AIDS Among Youth Fact Sheet, 2004
 National Vital Statistics Reports, October 29, Table 11
 Florida Department of Health, Bureau of HIV/AIDS

